



News Release

WISCONSIN ARMY AND AIR NATIONAL GUARD

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UPDATE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MEDIA ADVISORY

Slight delay for 300 National Guard soldiers from returning to Wisconsin Saturday

Lieutenant Governor, National Guard officials and families will
welcome troops back to Wisconsin Saturday afternoon

The flight home for 300 Wisconsin Army National Guard soldiers from 2nd Battalion, 127th Infantry will be slightly delayed, but is still expected back in Wisconsin Saturday afternoon, Aug. 19. The flight is now scheduled to arrive at Volk Field at approximately 4:20 p.m.

Soldiers will be greeted by Lt. Gov. Barbara Lawton, senior Wisconsin National Guard officials and a military band — and also by up to 2,500 cheering family members who have been waiting for their return for more than a year. Also on hand will be visitors to Volk Field's Open House and Fly-in, which had been scheduled long before the redeployment of the Army Guard infantry battalion.

The soldiers returning on the Saturday afternoon flight will include the remaining one-fourth of Company B's soldiers from the Green Bay and Marinette armories, soldiers from the battalion's headquarters in Appleton and the soldiers from Company C in Fond du Lac, which was augmented by soldiers from the armories in Waupun and Ripon.

The battalion's 300 soldiers arrived safely on Thursday night about 20 minutes before their aircraft's scheduled 9:00 p.m. arrival.

The Thursday flight returned soldiers assigned to the battalion's Company A, Waupun and Ripon, and most of the soldiers assigned to Company B in Green Bay. The returning Company A soldiers had been previously assigned to Troop E, 105th Cavalry in Merrill and Antigo, and the Onalaska-based 32nd Engineer Company. Soldiers who had been assigned to Company A before the mobilization were moved into Fond du Lac's Company C, which will return Saturday. Company B soldiers returning Thursday include soldiers who had been assigned to the battalion's Company D in Marinette.

— more —

Slight delay for National Guard return flight

Page 2

2nd Battalion, 127th Infantry left Wisconsin June 9, 2005 and deployed to Kuwait in August 2005 following several months training at Camp Shelby, Miss. The battalion was based in Kuwait, but the unit's convoy security mission took them throughout Iraq as they escorted military and civilian convoys in armored Humvee "gun trucks."

Following an initial reunion with their families and a brief official "welcome home," the returning soldiers will travel to nearby Fort McCoy to begin several days of demobilization processing.

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Note to Editors and News Directors: News media are welcome to cover the return of 2nd Battalion, 127th Infantry soldiers to Volk Field Saturday afternoon, Aug. 19. The flight is expected to arrive at the Air National Guard base sometime between 3:45 and 4:20 p.m. Volk Field is located in Juneau County off Exit 55 on Interstate Highways 90-94 near Camp Douglas.

Following the aircraft's arrival, soldiers and their families will have about an hour together before the soldiers are bused to nearby Fort McCoy to begin demobilization processing.

Although Volk Field will be open to the public for the base's Open House and Fly-In, we still require news media organizations wishing to cover the 2-127th Infantry redeployment to call Tim Donovan (608-242-3050 or Cell 608-516-1777) so arrangements can be made for access to the hangar and ramp area.

AIRCRAFT ARRIVAL TIME IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE

CALL 608-242-3059 FOR RECORDED SCHEDULE CHANGES

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